



## Military Operations Permits

### Application Process

In general, military activities are discouraged in parks. Periodically, an armed services unit may request the use of park areas for non-combat exercises such as search and rescue and outdoor survival. Determining when and where military units may conduct such activities is a discretionary decision of the Superintendent and must be approved on a Special Use Permit.

Complete the Application for Special Use Permit and submit it to the Mount Rainier National Park Permit Office at least **ten (10) business days** before the planned date of military operations. Your request will be evaluated based on the information in your application. Applicants should attach maps, diagrams, and other information that might assist

park staff in evaluating the application. Costs/fees may apply and will be determined after your request is reviewed.

Mail the completed application to:  
Permit Coordinator  
Mount Rainier National Park  
55210 238th Avenue East  
Ashford, WA 98304

For more information, call (360) 569-  
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### Restrictions & Conditions

Restrictions and conditions will be enumerated in the permit and will generally include the following:

- All applicable park rules and regulations will be followed.
- No weaponry will be carried, displayed or used.
- Participants must not wear military fatigues; civilian attire must be worn.
- The activity will be conducted away from visitor use locations and out of public view (except where a public demonstration is specifically authorized).
- Permittee will obtain all wilderness and/or climbing permits, if applicable, prior to the training exercise, and will pay all applicable fees associated with permits.
- The area must be left in the same condition as found, and all litter placed in the provided containers. Any park property damaged by the permittee, or as a result of the activity, will be replaced or repaired to the satisfaction of the Superintendent at the expense of the permittee.
- The military organization will designate a liaison officer who will be available to the Superintendent throughout the exercise.
- Permittees will be educated about how the purpose, mission, and regulations of the park differ from their own missions, especially in regard to resource protection and visitor use and enjoyment.
- The Special Use Permit must be in your

possession at the time of the event and area rangers may request to review it.

- The National Park Service will not be held responsible in the event of any personal injury, and/or loss of, or damage to, personal property during use of the area.
- Failure to comply with the conditions of the permit will result in its immediate revocation. Failing to comply with the conditions may be grounds for denying permits for such activities in the future.
- The National Park Service reserves the right to revoke the permit at any time should it become necessary in the interest of public safety and the general welfare.

A Special Use Permit does not allow the permittee to restrict park visitors from any location; therefore, sites which attract a large number of visitors should be avoided as well as events during peak visitor seasons and use hours. Normal visitor use patterns will not be interrupted and are only allowed as specified in the approved permit. Permit activities may not occur simultaneously with other permitted activities or unduly conflict with scheduled public activities. Permit activities may be restricted based on weather or seasonal conditions (fire danger, standing water after rain, nesting season, etc.). Additional closures, use limits and/or restricted activities are listed in the Superintendent's Compendium.

Activities having the potential to damage or significantly impact or alter park resources are prohibited. The following are also prohibited:

- 1) altering, damaging or removing vegetation,
- 2) vehicle use off established roads and parking areas,
- 3) use of insecticides, herbicides and pesticides,
- 4) loud noises (60 decibels or higher) between 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.,
- 5) use of fragile vegetation areas,
- 6) flying aircraft below FAA recommended minimum altitude (usually 2,000 feet) or landing of aircraft,
- 7) writing on or discoloring any natural feature or structure.